

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 241225Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2505

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 3319

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, MPOL, KE, SF, US

SUBJECT: KENYA POLICY ON SOUTH AFRICA

REF: NAIROBI 2924

1. IN MEETING WITH VICE PRESIDENT ARAP MOI TODAY, I OBSERVED THAT AT SAME TIME KENYA REQUESTING ARMS ASSISTANCE FROM UNITED STATES, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WAIYAKI MADE SPEECH IN DAR ES SALAAM AT RECENT OAU MEETING ADVOCATING USE OF FORCE AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. I STATED I FELT IT NECESSARY TO ASK FOR CLARIFICATION OF GOVERNMENT'S POSITION, IN ANTICIPATION OF POSSIBLE QUESTIONS FROM WASHINGTON.

. MOI TOLD ME WAIYAKI HAD TAKEN RADICAL APPROACH COMPLETELY ON HIS OWN WITHOUT PRESIDENT KENYATTA'S OR CABINET'S KNOWLEDGE. IN FACT, MOI SAID, WAIYAKI MADE A SERIOUS ERROR OF JUDGMENT. WAIYAKI HAD THOUGHT THE FEELING OF THE OAU MEMBERS WAS TOWARD USE OF FORCE, AND THEREFORE IN ATTEMPT TO GAIN LEADERSHIP ROLE, WAIYAKI TOOK POSITION HE DID. REALIZING HIS ERROR WHEN FEW JOINED HIM (AND PRESIDENT NYERERE CRITICIZED HIM), HE HASTILY RETURNED TO KENYA GOING IMMEDIATELY TO PRESIDENT KENYATTA IN ATTEMPT TO MAKE AMENDS. MOI ASSURES ME KENYA DEFINITELY DOES NOT FAVOR USE OF FORCE AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.

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MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERVENTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NAIROB03319
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750144-0386
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750421/aaaaatat.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 NAIROBI 2924
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolflhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <15 DEC 2003 by woolflhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KENYA POLICY ON SOUTH AFRICA
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, MPOL, KE, SF, US, (WAIYAKI, MUNYUA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006